CLAIMS

1. A method for automatically generating a credential database, comprising the following steps:

connecting at least one client device to a network having an authentication server;

generating credential data by the at least one client device;

sending the credential data to the authentication server; and

adding the credential data to a database of credential data.

2. The method for automatically generating a credential database of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

placing the authentication server into autolearn mode before the credential data is sent; and

returning the authentication server to normal mode after the credential data is added to the database.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the credential data is sent in a secure environment.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the credential data is encrypted before it is sent to the authentication server.

5. The method of claim 3 wherein the authentication server and the at least one client device are in a physically secure location when the data is sent.

6. The method of claim 3 comprising the additional step of verifying the at least one device is authorized to access the network.

7. The method of claim 6 comprising the additional step of deleting credential data for

any unauthorized devices.

8. The method of claim1 comprising the additional steps of

verifying the at least one device is authorized to access the network before the credential data is added to the database.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the credential data is sent in a secure environment.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the credential data is encrypted before it is sent to the authentication server.

11. The method of claim 9 wherein the authentication server and the at least one client device are in a physically secure location when the data is sent.

12. The method of claim 8 comprising the additional steps of

placing the authentication server in logging mode before credential data is sent; and

returning the authentication server to normal mode after the credential data has been added to the database.

13. The method of claim 2 wherein the credential data is sent by a wireless communication link.

14. The method of claim 2 wherein the credential data is sent by a hard wired communication link.

15. The method of claim 8 wherein the credential data is sent by a wireless communication link.

16. The method of claim 8 wherein the credential data is sent by a hard wired communication link.

17. A method for automatically generating a credential database for a plurality of client devices, comprising the steps of:

connecting a client device to a network having an authentication server;

generating credential data by the client device;

sending the credential data to the authentication server;

adding the credential data to a database of credential data; and

repeating the steps until the credential data for the plurality of client devices has been added to the database.

18. The method for automatically generating a credential database of claim 17 further comprising the steps of:

placing the authentication server into autolearn mode before the credential data is sent; and

returning the authentication server in normal mode after the credential data is added to the database.

19. The method of claim 18, comprising the additional steps of

verifying the client devices are authorized to access the network; and

deleting the credential data for any unauthorized client devices.

20. The method of claim 17 comprising the additional steps of

verifying the client devices are authorized to access the network before the credential data is added to the database.